

Unit 4: Collection 10
Selection Test

READING AND LITERATURE

The Story of an Hour Kate Chopin

COMPREHENSION Circle the letter of the best answer to each of the following items. (30 points; 6 points each)

1. Mrs. Mallard could best be described as—
 - A) dim-witted but strong
 - B) heartless and cruel
 - C) foolish but imaginative
 - D) intelligent and independent
2. From the story, what can you infer about Kate Chopin and her attitude toward marriage?
 - A) She thought marriage was a positive, liberating institution for women.
 - B) She thought that marriage was fine and all women should get married.
 - C) She thought marriage was about living for someone else and bending to his will.
 - D) She thought marriage made women weak and gave women heart conditions.
3. What is Mrs. Mallard's reaction to the news of her husband's death and how does it change?
 - A) She shows a cruel sense of happiness but then feels remorseful.
 - B) She doesn't accept it and then is overcome with grief.
 - C) She weeps uncontrollably and then feels a sense of hopefulness.
 - D) She is relieved at first and then regrets his absence.
4. What was Mrs. Mallard waiting for "fearfully"?
 - A) To hear from the ghost of her husband
 - B) To hear that her husband was alive
 - C) For the grim reality to set in
 - D) For her true feelings to arise
5. What ulterior motive might Richards have had in telling Mrs. Mallard about her husband's death?
 - A) Richards liked giving bad news.
 - B) Richards wanted to play the role of rescuer.
 - C) Richards was a cold and heartless man.
 - D) Richards had no ulterior motives.

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VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT Match the definition on the left with the vocabulary word on the right. On the line provided, write the letter of the correct vocabulary word. (10 points; 2 points each)

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| _____ 6. violently | A) vacant |
| _____ 7. empty of thought | B) illumination |
| _____ 8. intellectual or spiritual enlightenment | C) abandonment |
| _____ 9. a yielding to natural impulses; freedom from self-control or restraint | D) tumultuously |
| _____ 10. excited, restless | E) feverish |

VOCABULARY SKILL Match each grouping of parts of speech on the left with the correct corresponding example on the right. On the line provided, write the letter of the correct example. (10 points; 2 points each)

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ 11. adverb + adverb | A) vacant stare |
| _____ 12. verb + noun | B) play hard |
| _____ 13. adverb + adjective + noun | C) least badly |
| _____ 14. adjective + noun | D) gain illumination |
| _____ 15. verb + adverb | E) very difficult problem |

LITERARY FOCUS Circle the letter of the best answer to each of the following items. (20 points; 5 points each)

16. When a story turns out differently from the reader's expectations, it is an example of—
- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| A) literal realism | C) situational irony |
| B) scientific naturalism | D) verbal irony |
17. What is the greatest **irony** of the story?
- A) Mrs. Mallard's sister feared she would die at the news of her husband's death, but she died from the news that he was alive.
 - B) Mrs. Mallard's sister thought she would die from the shock of her husband's death, but she was fine.
 - C) Mrs. Mallard was hopeful about the future of her life without a husband, but then she lost hope.
 - D) Mrs. Mallard was thought to be a weak and ill woman, but she was actually completely healthy.

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18. What **irony** can be found in Kate Chopin's description of the day: "...the tops of trees that were all aquiver with the new spring life. ...countless sparrows were twittering in the eaves"?
- A) The characters were full of joy and hope on a gloomy day.
 - B) There was no hope in a natural environment full of hope and new life.
 - C) The weather was gloomy and so were the characters of the story.
 - D) The day was full of hope and life while the characters were dealing with death.
19. What best describes the **irony** of Josephine's and Richards's concern about sharing the news of her husband's death with Mrs. Mallard?
- A) They were worried about how grief-stricken she would be, but in reality his death came as a kind of relief for her.
 - B) They were worried about how grief-stricken she would be, and her grief is what killed her in the end.
 - C) Their worry was completely unfounded in that Mrs. Mallard was completely grief-stricken, but she was well enough to handle it.
 - D) They were worried that Mrs. Mallory would be relieved, but in fact she was grief-stricken.

READING FOCUS Circle the letter of the best answer to each of the following items. (10 points; 5 points each)

20. Which of the following best describes the **historical context** of this story?
- A) A time when men and women had equal rights
 - B) A period when women had few rights and were dependent on men
 - C) A time when women were not allowed to divorce or own property
 - D) A period when men were subservient to women
21. In the **historical context** of this story, what do you think would have been a common reaction of women to the loss of their husbands?
- A) They would have been worried about how they would take care of themselves.
 - B) Most widows would have been relieved that their husbands died.
 - C) Most widows would have feared that they would go into an institution.
 - D) They would have worried about finding a new husband quickly.

FIFTEEN MINUTE TIMED WRITING (20 points)

22. On a separate sheet of paper, compare and contrast views of women and marriage reflected in this story with views of women and marriage common today.